It is necessary to create an atmosphere in the electoral machinery that it not only acts in a State of fairness and objectivity, but it is also seen to act so and so acknowledged by the public. Complaints can be reduced by incorporating suitable amendments in the relevant Acts to serve as guidelines.

6. *Multi-Member Commission*:

There is an enabling provision in the Constitution for a multi-member Election Commission. However, this requires examination after taking into account all relevant aspects.

7. *Work relating to keeping of electoral rolls upto date and the conduct of elections*:

The existing arrangement under which there is a part-time Chief Electoral Officer for a State, needs to be looked into afresh. It seems Chief Electoral Officers would be able to attend to their work more effectively if they are whole-time officers.

8. *Voter to link with electoral machinery, State Assembly and Lok Sabha*:

The scheme to achieve the above would involve the constitution of an Advisory Committee at the polling Station level. The members of the Advisory Committee can be associated with the revision of rolls and with the conduct of elections.

Fire works idustry

628. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the fire works continue to be fatal and if so, whether manufacture of such items will be revised as reported in the Times of India of 21st November, 1986; and

(b) whether Government propose to conduct a scientific study to look into the hazards of fire works industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The fire works which are meant for entertainment and display are not fatal by nature. According to the information available with Government accidents take place mainly because the persons using the fire works do not observe the safety precautions. There is no proposal at present to conduct a scientific study to look into the hazards of the fire works industry. It is expected that by suitable education the public will use the fire works in the proper manner. The Department of Explosives constantly reviews the working of the various fire works items and issues instructions for improvement, whenever considered necessary. It has also asked the various manufacturers to print instructions for safe use of fire works on packets of such fire works themselves. The Department of Explosives has also an office at Sivakasi, the most important manufacturing centre of fire works in the country which not only inspects the units periodically but also carries out random tests of various items manufactured by them to ascertain that proper quality is maintained.

Construction of Lawyers' Chambers in Delhi High Court

629. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government received representations demanding the construction of Lawyers' Chambers in Delhi High Court;

(b) if so, whether Government intends to construct Lawyers Chambers in Delhi High Court;

(c) The total number of Delhi High Court Advocates who applied for the allotment of Chambers;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Lawyers' Chamber can be constructed in place of cycle stand in Delhi High Court; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the Government are facing difficulties for non-allotment of Chambers to Central Government panel Advocate in Delhi High Court; and if so, what steps Government intends to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Lok Adalats

630. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases settled by the Lok Adalats in the country since their inception; and

(b) the total amount spent in holding these Lok Adalats in different parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): According to the information furnished by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes,

(a) about 393325 cases were settled by the Lok Adalats.

(b) The Lok Adalats are overseen and monitored by the State Legal Aid and Advice Boards. Their expenses are ordinarily met by the State Board, and except occasional financial assistance extended by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes for boosting up the activity no funds are spent by the Committee for this purpose.

Price of levy cement

631. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the norms adopted by Government for fixing the prices and levy quota for cement; and

(b) what is the percentage of levy quota from the year 1983-84 to 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) After the partial decontrol of cement with effect from 28-2-82, the prices of levy cement were fixed, on the basis of detailed study conducted by Committee on Development of Cement Industry and were based on principle of "long run marginal cost" of cement production i.e., normative cost of cement production of a new cement factory set up on a green field site. The recommendations were marginally modified by Government. Subsequent revisions in the price of levy cement are made from time to time to neutralise the cost of production due to increase in the price of coal, freight on transport of coal, wages of cement workers etc. A uniform price is fixed on F.C.R. basis for the entire country.

Initially (after introduction of partial decontrol of cement 28.2.82), the levy quota was fixed in relation to the installed capacity with the intention of encouraging the cement factories to produce more. Certain relief in the computation of levy quota, on the basis of installed capacity, was also allowed on account of power cuts, mechanical break-down etc. Subsequently, the practice of linking levy supplies to installed capacities was dispensed with and was related to actual production with effect from 4-6-85 to encourage maximisation of production. With effect from 15-12-86, levy quota of all cement units has been reduced by 10 per cent to partially compensate the industry for increase in the production cost as also to make available more cement for being sold in the open market.